

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 6

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable pants-shaped absorbent product for males, comprising:

a front section;

a rear section;

a crotch section;

side sections to connect the front section and the rear section in the lateral direction, wherein the side sections comprise hip sections;

an elastic waist region;
an absorbent element, wherein the absorbent element at least covers the penis of the user; and

a liquid-tight outer layer to cover the absorbent element at least on the side thereof facing away from the user when the product is worn;

wherein the front section has at least one elastic member which enables the front section of the product to be pulled down during use, counter to the action of the elastic member, to a position in which the upper limit edge of the front section in the middle region of the front section is situated below the penis of the user, at the same time as at least the hip sections of the product are arranged to be held in place around the waist of the user;

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 7

wherein the absorbent element is configured with one or more deformation zones, which enable parts of the absorbent element which are situated above and over the penis of the user during product usage to be drawn down together with the rest of the front section when the front section of the product is pulled down; and

wherein the front section and the absorbent element are arranged to be returned by the elastic member to an original usage position,

wherein the absorbent element comprises at least two absorption bodies of different extent, wherein only one of the absorption bodies extends into the deformation zone, and wherein the absorption body extending into the deformation zone has little or no inherent stiffness.

2. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the elastic member, when stretched over the whole of a working range of the elastic member, has an essentially constant tensile stress when stretched in the same order of magnitude as the tensile stress in the elastic waist region.

3. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the elastic member comprises a section of the elastic waist region.

4. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 3, wherein the section of the elastic waist region extends over the front section between the hip sections.

5. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 4, wherein the elastic waist region extends over the whole of the front section, rear section, and side sections

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 8

and wherein the section of the elastic waist region which serves as the elastic member has higher elastic stretchability than the rest of the elastic waist region.

6. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the absorbent element is of a thinner and more flexible configuration in the deformable zone compared with the rest of the absorbent element.

7. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the absorbent element comprises deformable zones in the form of fold notches for the absorbent element and wherein the absorbent product is bent along the fold notches when the front section is pulled down.

8. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 7, wherein the fold notches comprise recesses, through-slots, or compression lines in the absorbent element.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the front section, at the waist region, when viewed from the crotch region, has a concave recess between the hip sections, whereby the front section of the product acquires a low pants cut during use, which reduces the amount by which the upper limit edge of the absorbent product in the middle region of the front section needs to be pulled down in order to bring the said limit edge into position below the penis of the user, compared with a straight cut.

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 9

11. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the hip sections comprise friction members arranged to help the absorbent product to be held in place on the user as the front section of the absorbent product is pulled down.

12. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the elastic waist region is formed at least in part from an elastic first piece, which is essentially rectangular in the extended state, to partially surround the trunk of the user and form the rear section and side sections comprising hip sections, wherein a second piece incorporated in the product is configured to form the front section and crotch section, wherein the second piece is elongated with two opposing end edges and two opposing longitudinal edges, wherein the width of the second piece, at least at the crotch section, is less than the length of the first piece, wherein the second piece is arranged in the longitudinal direction perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the first piece and is connected by a first end section centrally onto the one longitudinal edge section of the first piece, wherein the one end section of the first piece is connected to a first side edge section of the second piece, and wherein the second end section of the first piece is correspondingly connected to a second side edge section of the second piece and the absorbent element is fitted, in its entirety, on the second piece.

13. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 12, wherein the connected side edge sections and end sections of the said first and second pieces are fitted

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 10

prior to connection in overlapping arrangement with the inner side of an overlapping section placed against the outer side of an overlapped section.

14. (Previously Presented) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the absorbent element extends in the longitudinal direction over the whole of the crotch section and slightly up over the front section in a direction of an upper side edge of the second piece during use.

15. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the elastic member comprises an elastic non-woven or an elastic film.

16. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the elastic member comprises elastic tape or threads.

17. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the absorbent product comprises a two-piece product having an absorbent element in the form of a detachable insert to be fitted inside pants incorporated in the product, wherein the insert has a rear liquid-tight layer provided with fastening members by means of which the insert is detachably anchored in the pants, and wherein the insert is arranged to be held in place relative to the pants by means of the fastening members when the front section of the product is pulled down.

18. (Original) The absorbent product of Claim 1, wherein the absorbent element comprises a number of separate absorption bodies fitted adjacent to one

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 11

another in the lateral direction and extending in the longitudinal direction of the product in the direction from the front section to the rear section and wherein the separate absorbent bodies are separable in the lateral direction and longitudinal direction counter to the action of transverse elastic, whereby the separate absorption bodies can be mutually displaced when the front section of the product is pulled down.

19. (New) A disposable pants-shaped absorbent product for males, comprising:

a front section;
a rear section;
a crotch section;
side sections to connect the front section and the rear section in the lateral direction, wherein the side sections comprise hip sections;
an elastic waist region;
an absorbent element, wherein the absorbent element at least covers the penis of the user; and
a liquid-tight outer layer to cover the absorbent element at least on the side thereof facing away from the user when the product is worn;
wherein the front section has at least one elastic member which enables the front section of the product to be pulled down during use, counter to the action of the elastic member, to a position in which the upper limit edge of the front section in the middle region of the front section is situated below the penis of the user, at the same

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 12

time as at least the hip sections of the product are arranged to be held in place around the waist of the user;

wherein the absorbent element is configured with one or more deformation zones, which enable parts of the absorbent element which are situated above and over the penis of the user during product usage to be drawn down together with the rest of the front section when the front section of the product is pulled down; and

wherein the front section and the absorbent element are arranged to be returned by the elastic member to an original usage position, and

wherein the front section, at the waist region, when viewed from the crotch region, has a concave recess between the hip sections, whereby the front section of the product acquires a low pants cut during use, which reduces the amount by which the upper limit edge of the absorbent product in the middle region of the front section needs to be pulled down in order to bring the said limit edge into position below the penis of the user, compared with a straight cut.

20. (New) A disposable pants-shaped absorbent product for males, comprising:

a front section;

a rear section;

a crotch section;

side sections to connect the front section and the rear section in the lateral direction, wherein the side sections comprise hip sections;

an elastic waist region;

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 13

an absorbent element, wherein the absorbent element at least covers the penis of the user; and

a liquid-tight outer layer to cover the absorbent element at least on the side thereof facing away from the user when the product is worn;

wherein the front section has at least one elastic member which enables the front section of the product to be pulled down during use, counter to the action of the elastic member, to a position in which the upper limit edge of the front section in the middle region of the front section is situated below the penis of the user, at the same time as at least the hip sections of the product are arranged to be held in place around the waist of the user;

wherein the absorbent element is configured with one or more deformation zones, which enable parts of the absorbent element which are situated above and over the penis of the user during product usage to be drawn down together with the rest of the front section when the front section of the product is pulled down; and

wherein the front section and the absorbent element are arranged to be returned by the elastic member to an original usage position, and

wherein the hip sections comprise friction members arranged to help the absorbent product to be held in place on the user as the front section of the absorbent product is pulled down.

21. (New) A disposable pants-shaped absorbent product for males, comprising:

a front section;

a rear section;

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 14

a crotch section;
side sections to connect the front section and the rear section in the lateral direction, wherein the side sections comprise hip sections;
an elastic waist region;
an absorbent element, wherein the absorbent element at least covers the penis of the user; and
a liquid-tight outer layer to cover the absorbent element at least on the side thereof facing away from the user when the product is worn;
wherein the front section has at least one elastic member which enables the front section of the product to be pulled down during use, counter to the action of the elastic member, to a position in which the upper limit edge of the front section in the middle region of the front section is situated below the penis of the user, at the same time as at least the hip sections of the product are arranged to be held in place around the waist of the user;
wherein the absorbent element is configured with one or more deformation zones, which enable parts of the absorbent element which are situated above and over the penis of the user during product usage to be drawn down together with the rest of the front section when the front section of the product is pulled down; and
wherein the front section and the absorbent element are arranged to be returned by the elastic member to an original usage position, and
wherein the elastic waist region is formed at least in part from an elastic first piece, which is essentially rectangular in the extended state, to partially surround the trunk of the user and form the rear section and side sections comprising hip sections, wherein a second piece incorporated in the product is configured to form the front

Attorney's Docket No. 018798-172
Application No. 10/612,370
Page 15

section and crotch section, wherein the second piece is elongated with two opposing end edges and two opposing longitudinal edges, wherein the width of the second piece, at least at the crotch section, is less than the length of the first piece, wherein the second piece is arranged in the longitudinal direction perpendicularly to the longitudinal direction of the first piece and is connected by a first end section centrally onto the one longitudinal edge section of the first piece, wherein the one end section of the first piece is connected to a first side edge section of the second piece, and wherein the second end section of the first piece is correspondingly connected to a second side edge section of the second piece and the absorbent element is fitted, in its entirety, on the second piece.

22. (New) The absorbent product of Claim 21, wherein the connected side edge sections and end sections of the said first and second pieces are fitted prior to connection in overlapping arrangement with the inner side of an overlapping section placed against the outer side of an overlapped section.